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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/812,919

03/31/2004

Yoshihiro Ogawa

03500.018060.

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02/14/2006

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EXAMINER

WEBB, CHRISTOPHER G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2884

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/812,919	OGAWA, YOSHIHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Christopher G. Webb	2884	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20050331</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Nagano et al. (JP 2003-287571, hereafter Nagano).

As to claim 1, Nagano discloses a scintillator panel comprising: a phosphor layer for converting a radiation into light (fig. 4, element 112); and a supporting member having a supporting substrate (fig. 1, element 116) having radiation transmittable for supporting said phosphor layer, wherein said supporting substrate is formed by laminating non-conductive layers for assuring non-conductivity of a surface which supports said phosphor layer of said supporting substrate (fig. 1, elements 115) and non-conductivity of an opposite surface which faces said surface and a rigidity holding layer for assuring rigidity of said supporting substrate.

As to claim 2, Nagano discloses a panel according to claim 1, wherein said supporting member is formed by further laminating moisture-proof metal foils (fig. 1, elements 114) onto said surface and said opposite surface of said supporting substrate.

As to claim 3, Nagano discloses a panel according to claim 1, wherein said rigidity holding layer is made of a resin which holds the rigidity and said non-conductive

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layer is formed by a precursor of the resin which holds the rigidity (paragraph [0025]-[0026]).

As to claim 4, Nagano discloses a panel according to claim 3, wherein said resin is made of an aromatic polyimide resin and said precursor is made of an aromatic polyimide precursor (paragraph [0029]).

As to claim 5, Nagano discloses a panel according to claim 2, wherein a thickness of said moisture-proof metal foil lies within a range from 10 to 100 μm (paragraph [0038]).

As to claim 6, Nagano discloses a panel according to claim 1, wherein said supporting substrate is formed by laminating a plurality of said non-conductive layers and a plurality of said rigidity holding layers (fig. 3).

As to claim 7, Nagano discloses a panel according to claim 1, further comprising a moisture preventing protective layer which covers said phosphor layer and said supporting member (fig. 4, element 113).

As to claim 8, Nagano discloses a radiation detecting apparatus comprising: the scintillator panel according to claim 1; and a sensor panel including a plurality of photoelectric converting elements which are two-dimensionally arranged and convert the light converted in said phosphor layer into electric signals (fig. 6).

As to claim 9, Nagano discloses a radiation detection system including the radiation detecting apparatus according to claim 8 (fig. 9).

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Applicant cannot rely upon the foreign priority papers to overcome this rejection because a translation of said papers has not been made of record in accordance with 37 CFR 1.55. See MPEP § 201.15.


Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 2002/0017613 A1; US 6,172,371 B1; US 6,379,784 B1 all disclose relevant prior art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher G. Webb whose telephone number is (571) 272-8449. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM - 5:30PM M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David P. Porta can be reached on (571) 272-2444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


DAVID PORTA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800